

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An ergonomic microscope ,which comprises a stand ~~, which has~~ a stand base that defines an external contour; a microscope carrier ~~that comprises~~ comprising a carrier body ~~,~~ and a left and a right hand rest with each rest defining a front edge ~~,~~ wherein the left and the right hand ~~rest~~ rests are attached to the carrier body so as to pivot freely and independently of one another in such a way that regardless of the adjustment their front edges rest on a bench surface.
2. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the carrier body ~~possesses~~ comprises an external contour that corresponds substantially to the external contour of the stand base of the microscope.
3. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the carrier body comprises a housing open toward the bottom.
4. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 3, wherein the housing of said carrier body ~~has~~ comprises a surface ~~in which is embodied~~ with at least one depression embedded therein that serves to receive for receiving at least one corresponding foot on the stand base of the microscope.
5. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 4, wherein the depressions are configured as cutouts or holes ~~, and serve to orient~~ for orienting the microscope on the microscope carrier.
6. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein a cutout for ventilation or supply is provided on the carrier body.

7. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein at least one opening for attaching the microscope is provided in the carrier body of the microscope carrier.
8. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the microscope carrier comprises ~~is equipped with several~~ a plurality of pivotal supports that make available at least a three-point support of the microscope carrier on a bench surface.
9. (Currently Amended) An The ergonomic microscope, which comprises a microscope and a microscope carrier, said microscope comprising at least a stand, and a stand base that defines an external contour; ~~as defined in Claim 8, wherein said microscope carrier comprising a carrier body, a plurality of pivotal supports that make available at least a three-point support of said microscope carrier on a bench surface, and a left hand rest and a right hand rest attached to said carrier body so as to pivot freely and independently of one another, said pivotal supports comprising a first pivotal support , and a second pivotal support and a third pivotal support , said first and second pivotal supports being actuatable~~ are actuatable independently of a said third pivotal support.
10. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim ~~[[8]]~~ 9 , wherein said carrier body of said microscope carrier comprises a carrier housing, the pivotal supports of said microscope carrier ~~are provided~~ positioned in the carrier housing, open toward the bottom ~~[[,]]~~ of the carrier body, and said pivotal supports comprising an operating knob and a lever ~~are provided~~ on the carrier housing body, the first and the second support pivotal supports being pivotable by way of the operating knob , and the third support by way of the lever.
11. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 10, ~~wherein~~ comprising a shaft is connected to the operating knob; a bracket ~~is provided~~ on the shaft and connecting bars, said bracket and in turn is connected to said connecting bars, one of said

connecting bars associated with the first support and one of said connecting bars associated with the second support through connecting points; and wherein the connecting points between the bracket and the first and second supports are ~~each embodied as~~ rotatable bearing pins.

12. (Currently Amended) An ergonomic microscope which comprises~~[[:]]~~ a microscope carrier ~~and~~ , a microscope stand positioned on said microscope carrier~~[[:]]~~ , and a left hand rest and a right hand rest, each of said hand rests defining a front edge, said hand rests are pivotally mounted to the microscope carrier ~~and the left and the right hand rest are pivot for~~ movement freely and independently of one another in such a way that regardless of the adjustment their front edges rest on a bench surface .
13. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 12 , wherein the microscope stand defines a stand base ~~that has~~ with an external contour, the microscope carrier has comprising a microscope carrier body ~~that possesses~~ with an external contour, and wherein the external contour of the stand base corresponds substantially to the external contour of the microscope carrier body.
14. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 13, wherein the microscope carrier body comprises a housing open toward the bottom, ~~and the said~~ housing defines defining a surface ~~in which is embodied~~ comprising at least one depression ~~that serves to receive~~ for receiving at least one ~~corresponding~~ foot on the stand base of the microscope.
15. (Original)The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 14, wherein the depressions are configured as cutouts or holes, and serve to orient the microscope on the microscope carrier.

16. (Currently Amended) The ergonomic microscope as defined in Claim 12, wherein the microscope carrier is equipped with ~~several~~ a plurality of pivotable supports that make available at least a three-point support of the microscope carrier on a bench surface.
17. (Currently Amended) A microscope carrier, which comprises a microscope carrier body, a left and a right hand rest attached to the body so as to pivot freely and independently of one another.
18. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein said microscope carrier body comprises a left and a right lateral cheekpiece and a hinge system, the left and the right hand rest are attached by means of a said hinge system to ~~a left and a right~~ said left and right lateral cheekpieces ~~cheekpiece of the body~~.
19. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the left and the right hand rest ~~can be hooked~~ are adapted for hooking onto a left and a right lateral cheekpiece of the microscope carrier body (4).
20. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the hand rests each comprise a front edge; and the hand rests ~~taper from a certain segment~~ being inclined toward the front edge.
21. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the microscope carrier is equipped with ~~several~~ a plurality of pivotable supports that make available at least a three-point support of the microscope carrier on a bench surface.
22. (Currently Amended) A The microscope carrier, which comprises a carrier body, a left hand rest and a right hand rest attached to said body, so as to pivot freely and independently of one another, a plurality of pivotal supports that make available at least a three point support of the microscope carrier on a bench surface, said pivotal supports comprising at least first, second and third pivotal supports ~~as defined in Claim 21~~, wherein

[[a]] said first and , a second ~~and a third~~ pivotal supports are ~~actuable~~ actuatable independently of said third pivotable support.

23. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 21, wherein the pivotal supports are provided in a microscope carrier housing ~~[[,]]~~ open toward the bottom~~[[,]]~~ of ~~the body~~ , said microscope carrier housing comprising ~~and~~ an operating knob and a lever ~~are provided on the body~~, the first support and the second support being pivotable by way of the operating knob, and the third support by way of the lever.
24. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 23, ~~wherein~~ comprising a shaft is connected to the operating knob; a bracket ~~is provided~~ on the shaft and ~~in turn is connected to~~ connecting bars, said bracket connected to said connecting bars, one of said connecting bars associated with the first support and one of said connecting bars associated with the second support through connecting points; and the connecting points between the bracket rotatable bearing pins connect the bracket and the first and second supports each embodied as rotatable bearing pins .
25. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 24, wherein the body ~~possesses~~ comprises a front side on which the operating knob is provided; and the operating knob ~~possesses~~ comprises a detent lug and detent flutes, said detent lug which coacts adapted to coact with said detent flutes on the front side of body in such a way that a discrete pivoting of the first and the second supports can be established.
26. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 23, wherein the lever ~~provided on the body has associated with it several~~ comprises a plurality of detents ~~with which~~ for establishing at least one discrete pivoting of the third support ~~can be established~~.
27. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein the microscope carrier body ~~possesses~~ comprises an external contour that corresponds substantially to the external contour of a stand base of a microscope.

28. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 27, wherein the microscope carrier body comprises a housing open at the bottom.
29. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim ~~27~~ 28 , wherein the housing ~~has~~ comprises a surface ~~in which is embodied~~ having at least one depression ~~that serves~~ adapted to receive at least one ~~corresponding~~ foot on the stand base of ~~a~~ the microscope.
30. (Original) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 29, wherein the depressions are configured as cutouts or holes, and serve to orient the microscope on the microscope carrier.
31. (Currently Amended) The microscope carrier as defined in Claim 17, wherein at least one opening for attaching the microscope is provided in the ~~body of the~~ microscope carrier body.